

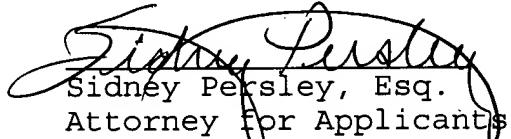
Claim 27 has been rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art. Claim 27 has been cancelled, so the rejection can be withdrawn.

(7) Rejections under 35 USC § 102(b)

Claims 27-35 and 38-47 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being unpatentable over Salvin et al (US 5,501,942). Claims 27-35 and 38-47 have been cancelled, so the rejections can be withdrawn.

Applicants submit that the forgoing amendments and remarks adequately and completely address each of the rejections raised by the Examiner, and place the outstanding claims in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request issuance of outstanding Claims, 1-10, 13-26 and 48-49.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Certificate of Mailing

I, Elizabeth Reyes, hereby certify that this correspondence (and any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on the date below and in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date 10/22/03

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